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THE WAGES OF SIN

God the Inscrutable
Looked on complacently
The while young Denison
Slipped all his debts by careful insolvency,
Broke his wife's heart, and ruined the serving girl.
But Lobster Salad and Iced Watermelon—
That was too much for even a godhead:
"I'll smite him for that," quoth God the Inscrutable.
And the wretch died in torment
At two in the morning.

Jessica Nelson North

FOG

The sea is a meadow, pale meadow of silence
Where flowers are blooming, white flowers of sound.
And deep in the petals, the pale listless petals,
Lost ships fumble grumbling, with blindness half crazy.

Does He muse, the Creator, as He peers in the vapor?—
"So bumble-bees trouble the heart of the daisy."

Kathryn White Ryan